In re Patent Application of: **ROY**
Serial No. 10/789,452
Filing Date: **February 27, 2004**
Attorney Docket No. 11779-US-PAT (80239)

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In the Claims:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A communications system comprising:

a mobile office platform server comprising a database for storing problem magnitudes relating to failed attempts at accessing servers using connection engines; and

said mobile office platform server further comprising an intelligent routing engine operative with the database for querying the database and delaying any further attempts at accessing the server when the problem magnitude as a preset rate of decay exceeds a predetermined threshold, wherein a problem magnitude is assigned for an error based on failures unrelated to a network failure.

2.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein said intelligent routing engine is operative for delaying any reattempts at accessing a server until a problem magnitude returns to below a predetermined threshold.

3.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 2, wherein any delay in reattempting access to the server is a function of a preset rate of decay of a problem magnitude.

4.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein said database includes data relating to a current problem magnitude for a failed access to a server that is added to a current exponentially decayed entry in the database.

5.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein said database includes data relating to a problem magnitude versus time for any server and connection engine pair.

6.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein a problem magnitude is assigned for an error based on network failures.

7.   (CANCELLED)

8.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein any failures unrelated to a network failure include an incorrect password and/or poorly formed request.

9.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein said intelligent routing engine comprises a proxy server.

10.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 1, wherein said intelligent routing engine is operative for accessing a server using a POP, IMAP or httpmail protocol.

11.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A communications system comprising:
a plurality of connection engines that can be used by a client for accessing a server of a server on an Internet Protocol

(IP) network, wherein said connection engines are distributed among a plurality of subnets and/or IP addresses;

a mobile office platform server comprising a database for storing a problem magnitude versus time relating to a particular connection engine and server after attempts had been made to access servers using the connection engines and problem magnitudes as a preset rate of decay had been assigned to failures in accessing the servers; and

said mobile office platform server further comprising an intelligent routing engine operative with the database for selecting a connection engine with minimum problems when a particular server is to be accessed based on stored data within the database, wherein a problem magnitude is assigned for an error based on failures unrelated to a network failure.

12. (ORIGINAL) A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein said intelligent routing engine is operative for delaying any reattempts at accessing a server until a problem magnitude returns to below a predetermined threshold.

13. (ORIGINAL) A communications system according to Claim 12, wherein any delay in reattempting access to a server is a function of a preset rate of decay of a problem magnitude.

14. (ORIGINAL) A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein said database includes data relating to a current problem magnitude for a failed access to a server that is added to a current exponentially decayed entry in the database.

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15.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein said database includes data relating to a problem magnitude versus time for any server and connection engine pair.

16.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein a problem magnitude is assigned for an error based on network failures.

17.   (CANCELLED)

18.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein any failures unrelated to a network failure include an incorrect password and/or poorly formed request.

19.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein said intelligent routing engine comprises a proxy server.

20.   (ORIGINAL)   A communications system according to Claim 11, wherein said intelligent routing engine is operative for accessing the server using POP, IMAP or httpmail protocol.

21.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method of accessing a server of a server on an Internet Protocol (IP) network comprising the steps of:

attempting access from a mobile office platform server to a server using a first connection engine;

assigning a problem magnitude by retrieving a problem magnitude as stored at a database at the mobile office platform server if the attempt at accessing the server has failed; and

delaying any further attempts at accessing the server when the problem magnitude as a preset rate of decay exceeds a predetermined threshold and assigned a problem magnitude for an error based on failures unrelated to network failure.

22. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 21, and further comprising the step of delaying any reattempts at accessing the server until the problem magnitude returns to below a predetermined threshold.

23. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the delay in reattempting access to the server is a function of a preset rate of decay of the problem magnitude.

24. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 21, and further comprising the step of maintaining a database of failed attempts at accessing the server.

25. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 24, wherein a current problem magnitude for a failed access to a server is added to a current exponentially decayed entry in the database along with a time stamp.

26. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 24, and further comprising the step of storing in the database the problem magnitude versus time for any server and connection engine pair.

27. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 24, and further comprising the step of tracking the magnitude of failure based on the problem magnitude of failed attempts stored within the database.

28. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 21, and further comprising the step of assigning a problem magnitude for an error based on network failures.

29. (CANCELLED)

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method according to Claim 21, wherein a failure unrelated to a network failure includes an incorrect password and/or poorly formed request.

31. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 21, and further comprising the step of making a service request to the connection engine using a proxy engine.

32. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 31, and further comprising the step of making a service request using a Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) or Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

33.   (ORIGINAL)   A method according to Claim 31, and further comprising the step of attempting access to a server using a POP, IMAP, or httpmail protocol.

34.   (ORIGINAL)   A method according to Claim 21, and further comprising the step of choosing a second connection engine and attempting access to the server after failing access with the first connection engine.

35.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method of accessing a server of a server on an Internet Protocol (IP) network comprising the steps of:

distributing connection engines over multiple subnets and/or multiple IP addresses;

attempting access from a mobile office platform server to servers using the connection engines;

assigning problem magnitudes to failures in accessing any servers by retrieving a problem magnitude as stored at a database at the mobile office platform;

storing the problem magnitude versus time as a preset rate of decay relating to a particular connection engine and server within a within said database; and

choosing a connection engine having minimum problems when a particular server is to be accessed based on the data stored within the database and assigning a problem magnitude for an error based on failures unrelated to a network failure.

36. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 35, and further comprising the step of distributing the connection engines over multiple servers.

37. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 35, wherein a current problem magnitude for a failed access to a server is added to a current exponentially decayed entry in the database along with a time stamp.

38. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 35, and further comprising the step of terminating any further attempts at accessing a server using a first connection engine if a problem magnitude exceeds a predetermined threshold.

39. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 38, and further comprising the step of delaying any reattempts at accessing the server until a problem magnitude returns to below a predetermined threshold.

40. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 39, wherein the delay in reattempting access to the server is a function of a preset rate of decay of the problem magnitude.

41. (ORIGINAL) A method according to Claim 35, and further comprising the step of assigning a problem magnitude for an error based on network failures.

42. (CANCELLED)

43.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A method according to Claim 35, wherein a failure unrelated to a network failure includes an incorrect password and/or poorly formed request.

44.   (ORIGINAL)   A method according to Claim 35, and further comprising the step of making a service request to a connection engine using a proxy engine.

45.   (ORIGINAL)   A method according to Claim 44, and further comprising the step of making a service request using a Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) or Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

46.   (ORIGINAL)   A method according to Claim 44, and further comprising the step of attempting access to the server using POP, IMAP, or httpmail protocol.

47.   (ORIGINAL)   A method according to Claim 35, and further comprising the step of choosing a second connection engine and attempting access to the server after attempting access to the server with the first connection engine has failed.

48.   (CANCELLED)

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49. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A communications system comprising:

a mobile office platform server comprising a database for storing problem magnitudes relating to failed attempts at accessing servers using connection engines; and

said mobile office platform server further comprising an intelligent routing engine operative with the database for querying the database and delaying any further attempts at accessing the server when the problem magnitude exceeds a predetermined threshold, and wherein said database includes data relating to a current problem magnitude for a failed access to a server that is added to a current exponentially decayed entry in the database.

50. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A communications system comprising:

a mobile office platform server comprising a database for storing problem magnitudes relating to failed attempts at accessing servers using connection engines; and

said mobile office platform server further comprising an intelligent routing engine operative with the database for querying the database and delaying any further attempts at accessing the server when the problem magnitude exceeds a predetermined threshold, where a problem magnitude is assigned for an error based on failures unrelated to a network failure.

51.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A communications system comprising:

a mobile office platform server comprising a database for storing problem magnitudes relating to failed attempts at accessing servers using connection engines; and

said mobile office platform server further comprising an intelligent routing engine as a proxy server operative with the database for querying the database and delaying any further attempts at accessing the server when the problem magnitude exceeds a predetermined threshold.

52.   (CANCELLED)